

Probate cases on this calendar are currently under review by the probate examiners. Review of some probate cases may not be completed and therefore have not been posted.

If your probate case has not been posted please check back again later.

Thank you for your patience.

**Attorney** 

Poochigian, Mark S. (for Petitioner Antonette Gutierrez, Successor Trustee)

Petition for Determination of Right to Surcharge Beneficiary's Interest, or in the Alternative, Enforce Money Judgment against Trust Beneficiary

| DC       | DOD: 10/7/2005                  |          |  |
|----------|---------------------------------|----------|--|
|          |                                 |          |  |
|          |                                 |          |  |
|          |                                 |          |  |
|          | ont. from 08101<br>2115, 110915 | 5,       |  |
|          | Aff.Sub.Wit.                    |          |  |
| ✓        | Verified                        |          |  |
|          | Inventory                       |          |  |
|          | PTC                             |          |  |
|          | Not.Cred.                       |          |  |
| ✓        | Notice of<br>Hrg                |          |  |
| ✓        | Aff.Mail                        | W/       |  |
|          | Aff.Pub.                        |          |  |
|          | Sp.Ntc.                         |          |  |
|          | Pers.Serv.                      |          |  |
|          | Conf.                           |          |  |
|          | Screen                          |          |  |
|          | Letters                         |          |  |
|          | Duties/Supp                     |          |  |
|          | Objections                      |          |  |
|          | Video                           |          |  |
|          | Receipt                         |          |  |
|          | CI Report                       |          |  |
|          | 9202                            |          |  |
|          | Order                           | X        |  |
|          | Aff. Posting                    |          |  |
|          | Status Rpt                      | <u> </u> |  |
| <u> </u> | UCCJEA                          | <u> </u> |  |
|          | Citation                        |          |  |
|          | FTB Notice                      |          |  |

**ANTONETTE GUTIERREZ**, daughter and Successor Trustee, is Petitioner.

#### Petitioner states:

- Settlor Erlinda Gutierrez created the ERLINDA GUTIERREZ TRUST by Declaration of Trust dated 6/21/2005 (copy attached as Exhibit A);
- Trust terms provide that Petitioner shall become sole trustee to fill the vacancy created by Settlor's death; Petitioner is the sole Successor Trustee of the Trust;
- Trust is the owner of an interest in real property on Pecan Avenue in Reedley;
- On 10/22/2007, RAYMOND RENTERIA
  [Settlor's brother], individually and as
  Guardian Ad Litem for RITA RENTERIA,
  filed an Ownership Action in Case
  07CECG03513 alleging that they were
  the rightful owners of the property;
  Court concluded that the Renterias
  failed to establish their ownership;
- On 9/6/2012, the Court also entered in the Ownership Action a \$86,229.95 money judgment in favor of the Trust and against Renteria in favor of Petitioner, individually, and as Trustee of the Trust, and as Executor of the Estate of Erlinda Gutierrez in Case 06CEPR00207 (copy of judgment attached as Exhibit C; Court of Appeal upheld Trial Court decision);
- Accordingly, the Trust is the rightful owner of the property, and Petitioner, individually, as Trustee of the Trust, and as Executor of the Estate, is a judgment creditor of Renteria;
  - ~Please see additional page~

#### **NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:**

Continued from 11/9/2015. Minute Order states Mr. Poochigian requests 60 days due to the Stay of Proceedings filed by Attorney Nunez on behalf of Raymond Renteria in U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

#### Notes:

- Notice of Stay of Proceedings filed by Attorney Nunez on 8/6/2015 shows this matter is automatically stayed with regard to RAYMOND RENTERIA caused by filing in U.S. Bankruptcy Court on 7/24/2015.
- Order Settling Second and Final Account, etc., filed 11/12/2015 in the Erlinda Gutierrez Estate, Case #06CEPR00207, distributes the \$86,229.95 money judgment against RAYMOND RENTERIA to the estate heirs in their respective percentages.

# The following issue from the last hearing remains:

 Need proposed order pursuant to Local Rule 7.1.1(F) which provides a proposed order shall be submitted with all pleadings that request relief.

| Reviewed by: LEG    |
|---------------------|
| Reviewed on: 1/4/16 |
| Updates:            |
| Recommendation:     |
| File 1 – Gutierrez  |

# 1 First Additional Page, Erlinda Gutierrez Trust dtd 6/21/2005 Case No. 11CEPR00097

# Petitioner states, continued:

- Order Determining Construction of Trust Instrument and Instructing Trustee filed 9/19/2011 describes the
  nature of the interests of the parties with respect to the Reedley property under the terms of the Trust; the
  Court's order finds Renteria is the holder of a legal life estate in the property and is required to [in brief
  sum, act as to the residence in a manner that a fee simple owner would normally act; not injure or harm
  the future interest holders; deliver to Antonette Gutierrez or her successors in interest possession of the
  residence upon termination of the life tenancy; keep the property in repair, pay taxes and other annual
  charges];
- Renteria presently occupies a portion of the residence located on the property and receives rent from
  leasing the remainder; Renteria has been derelict in his duties as holder of a life estate and has allowed
  the property to fall into a state of disrepair by failing to perform necessary repairs, neglecting to pay
  property taxes and insurance, and is therefore causing harm to the future interest held by the person
  designated to receive the remainder after Renteria's death;
- The Trust provides that the named beneficiaries' interests are not subject to voluntary or involuntary transfer;
- Apart from Renteria's life estate in the property, Petitioner believes he has no assets against which the judgment in favor of the Trust may be enforced, and that the value of Renteria's interest in the property is insufficient to satisfy the [\$86,229.95] money judgment entered against him.

# Petitioner requests an Order that:

- 1. Petitioner, as Trustee of the Trust, is entitled to surcharge Renteria's remaining interest to (a) partially satisfy the money judgment entered in Case 07CECG03513, (b) pay for necessary repairs and maintenance on the property, and (c) pay all necessary expenses, including property taxes and insurance:
- 2. Petitioner is authorized and directed to take possession of the property, to lease the property for its reasonable rental value, collect all rents and profits received from the property, and apply the net income from all of the Trust property to the satisfaction of the [\$86,229.95] money judgment] until the judgment is satisfied in full, at which time all of the net income of the Trust shall be paid in convenient installments to Renteria; OR,
- 3. As an alternative to surcharge of the beneficiary's interest, the Trustee under Code of Civil Procedure § 709.010, shall lease the property for its reasonable rental value, and collect all rents and profits received therefrom and apply such funds to the satisfaction of the [\$86,229.95] money judgment]; or shall satisfy the judgment by such means as the Court in its discretion determines are proper, including imposition of a lien on or sale of the judgment debtor's interest, collection of trust income, and liquidation and transfer of trust property; and
- 4. Petitioner is awarded her attorneys' fees and costs.

Fanucchi, Edward L. (for Talina Hurley – maternal grandmother/Guardian)
Status Hearing Re: the Establishment of a Guardianship in Oregon

| Scarlet, 10  Scarlet, 10  Inventory PTC Not.Cred. Notice of Notice of Notice of Hrg Aff.Mail Aff.Pub.  Was appointed Guardian of the minors on 11/19/12  Con 05/27/14, Guardian's Petition to Fix Residence Outside the State of California was granted.  Con 05/27/14, Guardian's Petition to Fix Residence Outside the State of California was granted.  Con 05/27/14, Guardian's Petition to Fix Residence Outside the State of California was granted.  On 06/24/14, Debra Swenson, paternal grandmother, filed an Ex Parte Application for Temporary Restraining Order Preventing Guardian from Fixing Residence of Minors Outside of California and an Order Shortening Time on Petition to Terminate Order Fixing Minors Residence Outside of California. The Ex Parte Application was granted on 06/24/14 and set a hearing for 07/10/14.  At the 07/10/14 hearing, the matter was set for a court trial on 07/24/14.  | los:     |
|--|----------|
| Cont. from 012615, 030915, 060115, 062915, 083115, 102615  Aff.Sub.Wit.  Preventing Guardian from Fixing Residence of Minors Outside of California and an Order Shortening Time on Petition to Terminate Order Fixing Minors Outside of California. The Ex Parte Application to Terminate Order Fixing Minors Residence Outside of California. The Ex Parte Application was granted on 06/24/14 and set a hearing for 07/10/14.  Aff.Mail  Minute Order from 10/26/15 states to Counsel represents that the Oregon court continued their matter to 11/30/15 to trail the juvenile case for Nathaniel.  Copy of document titled Acceptance of Appointment and | <b>.</b> |
| Residence Outside the State of California was granted.  Cont. from 012615, 030915, 060115, 062915, 080315, 083115, 102615  Aff.Sub.Wit.  Verified Inventory  PTC Not.Cred. Notice of Hrg Aff.Mail  Residence Outside the State of California was granted on 06/24/14 and set a hearing for 07/10/14.  Residence Outside the State of California was granted on 06/24/14 and set a hearing for 07/10/14.  Oregon court continued their matter to 11/30/15 to trail the juvenile case for Nathaniel.  Copy of document titled Acceptance of Appointment a Fiduciary filed 08/03/15 states to Talina Hurley was appointed Guardian on 07/30/15 and that she accepts the appointment of the State of California was granted on 06/24/14 and set a hearing for 07/10/14.  At the 07/10/14 hearing, the matter was Guardian in Oregon.   | ies:     |
| Cont. from 012615, 030915, 060115, 062915, 080315, 083115, 102615  Aff.Sub.Wit.  Verified  Inventory  PTC  Not.Cred.  Notice of Hrg  Aff.Mail  Aff.Mail  Was granted.  Was granted.  Was granted.  On 06/24/14, Debra Swenson, paternal grandmother, filed an Ex Parte Application for Temporary Restraining Order Preventing Guardian from Fixing Residence of Minors Outside of California and an Order Shortening Time on Petition to Terminate Order Fixing Minors Residence Outside of California. The Ex Parte Application was granted on 06/24/14 and set a hearing for 07/10/14.  At the 07/10/14 hearing, the matter was  Matter to 11/30/15 to trail the juvenile case for Nathaniel.  Copy of document titled Acceptance of Appointment a Fiduciary filed 08/03/15 states to Talina Hurley was appointed Guardian on 07/30/15 and that she accepts the appointment of willingly subjects herself to the jurisdiction of the Oregon Cour   |          |
| Cont. from 012615, 030915, 060115, 062915, 080315, 083115, 102615  Aff.Sub.Wit.   Copy of document titled Acceptance of Appointment a Fiduciary filed 08/03/15 states to Talina Hurley was appointed and an Order Shortening Time on Petition to Terminate Order Fixing Minors  Not.Cred.   Not.Cred.   Notice of Hrg   Aff.Mail   Aff.Mail   Aff.Mail   Aff.Mail   Aff.Mail   Aff.Mail   Juvenile case for Nathaniel.    Juvenile case for Nathaniel.   Copy of document titled Acceptance of Appointment a Fiduciary filed 08/03/15 states to Talina Hurley was appointed Guardian on 07/30/15 and that she accepts the appointment of the Villingly subjects herself to the jurisdiction of the Oregon Cour   |          |
| On 06/24/14, Debra Swenson, paternal grandmother, filed an Ex Parte Application for Temporary Restraining Order    Aff.Sub.Wit.  |          |
| o62915, 080315, 080315, 083115, 102615  Aff.Sub.Wit.  Verified  Inventory  PTC  Not.Cred.  Notice of Hrg  Aff.Mail  Aff.Mail  O62915, 080315, 080315, 080315, 083115, 102615  Grandmother, filed an Ex Parte Application for Temporary Restraining Order Preventing Guardian from Fixing Residence of Minors Outside of California and an Order Shortening Time on Petition to Terminate Order Fixing Minors Residence Outside of California. The Ex Parte Application was granted on 06/24/14 and set a hearing for 07/10/14.  At the 07/10/14 hearing, the matter was Guardian in Oregon.  |          |
| Aff.Sub.Wit.   Freventing Guardian from Fixing   Residence of Minors Outside of California   and an Order Shortening Time on Petition   to Terminate Order Fixing Minors   Residence Outside of California. The Ex   Parte Application was granted on   Notice of   Hrg   Aff.Mail   Acceptance of Appointment a   Fiduciary filed 08/03/15 states to   Fiduciary filed 08/03/15    |          |
| Aff.Sub.Wit.   Preventing Guardian from Fixing   Residence of Minors Outside of California   and an Order Shortening Time on Petition   to Terminate Order Fixing Minors   Residence Outside of California. The Ex   Parte Application was granted on   Notice of   Hrg   Aff.Mail   Aff.Mail   Aff.Mail   Aff.Mail   Preventing Guardian from Fixing   Fiduciary filed 08/03/15 states to Talina Hurley was appointed   Guardian on 07/30/15 and that   she accepts the appointment   willingly subjects herself to the jurisdiction of the Oregon Cour   1. Need order appointing   Guardian in Oregon.  | s        |
| Verified   Residence of Minors Outside of California and an Order Shortening Time on Petition to Terminate Order Fixing Minors Residence Outside of California. The Ex Parte Application was granted on 06/24/14 and set a hearing for 07/10/14.   Notice of Hrg   Aff.Mail   Aff.Mail   Aff.Mail   Aff.Mail   Residence of Minors Outside of California and an Order Shortening Time on Petition of Outside of California and an Order Shortening Time on Petition of Outside of California and an Order Shortening Time on Petition to Terminate Order Fixing Minors Residence Outside of California and an Order Shortening Time on Petition to Terminate Order Fixing Minors Residence Outside of California and an Order Shortening Time on Petition to Terminate Order Fixing Minors Residence Outside of California and an Order Shortening Time on Petition to Terminate Order Fixing Minors Residence Outside of California. The Expart Part Application was granted on 06/24/14 and set a hearing for 07/10/14.  |          |
| Inventory  PTC  Residence Outside of California. The Ex Parte Application was granted on 06/24/14 and set a hearing for 07/10/14.  Aff.Mail  Aff.Mail  Guardian on 07/30/15 and that she accepts the appointment willingly subjects herself to the jurisdiction of the Oregon Cour  1. Need order appointing Guardian in Oregon.   |          |
| PTC   Residence Outside of California. The Ex   Not.Cred.   Parte Application was granted on   06/24/14 and set a hearing for 07/10/14.   She accepts the appointment willingly subjects herself to the jurisdiction of the Oregon Cour   1. Need order appointing   Aff.Mail   A   |          |
| Notice of Hrg  Aff.Mail  Notice of Notice of Aff.Mail  Notice of Notice of Notice of Aff.Mail  Notice of N | and      |
| Notice of Hrg  Aff.Mail  Aff.Mail  Notice of Hrg  Aff.Mail  Notice of Hrg  O6/24/14 and set a hearing for 07/10/14.  1. Need order appointing Guardian in Oregon.  | .        |
| Hrg Aff.Mail At the 07/10/14 hearing, the matter was Guardian in Oregon.   | 1.       |
| Aff.Mail At the 07/10/14 hearing, the matter was Guardian in Oregon.   |          |
| and for an activity bright an O7/O4/14   |          |
|  |          |
| Sp.Ntc.  |          |
| Pers.Serv. At the Court trial on 07/24/14, the Court found that there was no detriment in  |          |
| Conf. allowing the children to move to Oregon  |          |
| Screen and set this matter for a Status Hearing  |          |
| Letters regarding the Establishment of a   |          |
| Duties/Supp Guardianship in Oregon.  |          |
| Objections Cover Shoot for Orong Political for   |          |
| Video Cover Sheet for Oregon Petition for Appointment of Guardian and Attached   |          |
| Receipt Documents filed 02/17/15 attaches a copy   |          |
| CI Report of a Petition for Appointment of Guardian  |          |
| in Washington County, Oregon.  |          |
| Order  |          |
| Aff. Posting Status Report filed 12/08/15 states: since Reviewed by: JF  |          |
| Status Rpt the last hearing, the Oregon court held a hearing on 11/30/15. The Oregon Judge   |          |
| set the matter for review on 06/27/16. The updates:  |          |
| Citation Oregon Judge also indicated that he had Recommendation:   |          |
| FTB Notice been in contact with Judge Kazanjian File 4- Swenson  |          |
| and that the California guardianship will  |          |
| remain in full force and effect until the  |          |
| Oregon mater gets set aside.   |          |

Case No. 13CEPR00294

5 Teixeira, J. Stanley Attorney Attorney Hinshaw, Caroline K

Status Hearing Re: Filing Second and Final Account or Petition for Final Distribution.

|                          | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:                         |
|--------------------------|--|
|                          | OFF CALENDAR                                     |
| Aff.Sub.Wit.             | Continued to 2/17/16 per Minute<br>Order 1/5/16. |
| Verified Inventory       |  |
| PTC                      |  |
| Not.Cred.  Notice of Hrg |  |
| Aff.Mail Aff.Pub.        |  |
| Sp.Ntc.                  |  |
| Pers.Serv.  Conf. Screen |  |
| Letters Duties/Supp      |  |
| Objections Video         |  |
| Receipt                  |  |
| CI Report<br>9202        |  |
| Order Aff. Posting       | Reviewed by: skc                                 |
| Status Rpt UCCJEA        | Reviewed on: 1/5/16 Updates:                     |
| Citation FTB Notice      | Recommendation: File 5- Carlson                  |

# 6 Rick Gerald Smith III (GUARD/P)

Case No. 13CEPR00311

Petitioner Marlene Smith (Pro Per, Co-Guardian)
Petitioner Rick Smith (Pro Per, Co-Guardian)

# **Petition for Termination of Guardianship**

|              | remon for termination of odd | <u> </u>                 |
|--------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
|              |                              | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS: |
|              |                              | CONTINUED to 2/9/2017    |
|              |                              | CONTINUED to 2/8/2016    |
|              |                              | B -                      |
| Cont. from   |                              | Per Petitioners' request |
| Aff.Sub.Wit. |                              |                          |
| Verified     |                              |                          |
| Inventory    |                              |                          |
| PTC          |                              |                          |
| Not.Cred.    |                              |                          |
| Notice of    |                              |                          |
| Hrg          |                              |                          |
| Aff.Mail     |                              |                          |
| Aff.Pub.     |                              |                          |
| Sp.Ntc.      |                              |                          |
| Pers.Serv.   |                              |                          |
| Conf.        |                              |                          |
| Screen       |                              |                          |
| Letters      |                              |                          |
| Duties/Supp  |                              |                          |
| Objections   |                              |                          |
| Video        |                              |                          |
| Receipt      |                              |                          |
| CI Report    |                              |                          |
| 9202         |                              |                          |
| Order        |                              | <b>D</b> 11 150          |
| Aff. Posting |                              | Reviewed by: LEG         |
| Status Rpt   |                              | Reviewed on: 1/4/16      |
| UCCJEA       |                              | Updates:                 |
| Citation     |                              | Recommendation:          |
| FTB Notice   |                              | File 6- Smith            |

Daniel Speer (Estate)
Kruthers, Heather H. (for Public Administrator)

# Probate Status Hearing RE: Filing of the First Account

| DOD: 04/12/13                                      | JEOFFERY SPEER, son, was appointed Administrator of the Estate without bond and with full IAEA on 11/18/13. Letters of Administration were issued on 11/20/13.   | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/<br>COMMENTS:  |
|--|--|---|
| Cont. from 101915 Aff.Sub.Wit.                     | On 10/07/14, at a status hearing regarding filing of the Inventory & Appraisal, the Court removed Jeoffery Speer as Administrator and, on its own  | CONTINUED FROM<br>10/19/15<br>1. Need   |
| Verified Inventory PTC Not.Cred. Notice of         | motion, appointed the Public Administrator.  Note: On 2-3-15, Jeoffery Speer, former Administrator, filed an Inventory and Appraisal; however, the document is incomplete.  Minute Order from hearing on 02/09/15 set this matter for status regarding filing of the   | Accounting/Petition for Final Distribution.                                   |
| Aff.Mail Aff.Pub. Sp.Ntc. Pers.Serv.               | Account/Petition for Distribution.  Status Report Regarding Final Distribution filed 12/30/15 states: The former administrator filed an Inventory & Appraisal on 02/03/15 listing two parcels of real property as the only assets of the estate. The   |   |
| Conf. Screen  Letters  Duties/Supp Objections      | address on the first parcel on N. Chance in Fresno is incorrect, but the APN is correct. The property at 6645 E. Cornell, Fresno was sold by Jeoffery Speer on 02/04/14 for \$258,730.00. The property was appraised at \$245,000.00. The N. Chance property is secured by a Deed of Trust from Fresno County Federal Credit Union (FCFCU). It appears that there  |   |
| Video Receipt CI Report 9202 Order                 | is an impound account for the payment of taxes on<br>this property. The PA visited the Speer property on<br>N. Orchard. The property is occupied by a woman<br>named Heidi Fail, she grew up with the Speer<br>children and has an agreement to live in the<br>property arranged by Eli Speer. She pays \$850.00<br>per month directly to Daniel Speer's account at  |   |
| Aff. Posting Status Rpt UCCJEA Citation FTB Notice | FCFCU, which is why the property has not gone into foreclosure. The Public Administrators file contains a copy of an e-mail apparently written, printed and then signed by the decedent on the same day he was found deceased. The PA does not believe this is a valid will and intestate distribution will be the   | Reviewed by: JF Reviewed on: 01/05/16 Updates: Recommendation: File 9 – Speer |
|  | same as if it was a valid will. Jeoffery Speer's siblings all signed waivers of bond and therefore there is no bond from which to collect a judgment. Jeoffery Speer has not returned calls made to him. The PA will contact the other heirs to find out how they would like the PA to proceed, including possible surcharge against Jeoffery Speer. The PA will also contact the tenant to determine if she would like to buy the property. The PA requests the next status hearing be set no sooner than six months from this hearing. |   |

# 12 Fran Mae Johns (Estate) Case No. 14CEPR00073 Attorney Rube, Melvin K. (for Dennis H. Johns – Executor)

Probate Status Hearing Re: Filing First Account and/or Petition for Final Distribution

| DOD: 01/14/2008    | <b>DENNIS H. JOHNS,</b> son, was appointed                                     | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:                      |
|--------------------|--|---|
|                    | Executor with limited IAEA authority   |   |
|                    | without bond on 06/23/2014.  | Minute Order of 10/19/2015: Mr. Rube was just |
|                    |  | recently retained.                            |
| 0 16 000015        | Letters issued on 06/23/2014.  |   |
| Cont. from 082815, |  | Need First Account or Petition for Final      |
| 101915             | Final Inventory & Appraisal filed  | Distribution or current written status        |
| Aff.Sub.Wit.       | 11/04/2014 shows an estate valued at   | report pursuant to Local Rule 7.5             |
| Verified           | \$260,000.00.  | which states in all matters set for           |
| Inventory          | Final Carra et ad Inventor ( 9 Approisal                                       | status hearing verified status reports        |
| PTC                | Final Corrected Inventory & Appraisal filed 01/04/2016 shows an estate valued  | must be filed no later than 10 days           |
| Not.Cred.          | at \$302,376.62.   | before the hearing. Status Reports            |
| Notice of          | G. 4002,07 0.02.   | must comply with the applicable               |
| Hrg                | Minute Order of 06/23/2014 set this status                                     | code requirements. Notice of the              |
| Aff.Mail           | hearing for the filing of the First Account                                    | status hearing, together with a copy          |
| Aff.Pub.           | and/or Petition for Distribution.  | of the Status Report shall be served on       |
| Sp.Ntc.            | Status Report of Melvin K. Rube filed  | all necessary parties.                        |
| Pers.Serv.         | 10/15/2015 (for hearing on 10/19/2015)   | ,       |
| Conf.              | states he has been retained by the   |   |
| Screen             | executor, Dennis Johns, who resides in   |   |
| Letters            | Sterling, Alaska, to prepare and file on                                       |   |
| Duties/Supp        | his behalf, a first and final report and                                       |   |
| Objections         | accounting and petition for final  |   |
| Video              | distribution. Attorney Rube has  |   |
| Receipt            | reviewed the file provided by the  |   |
| CI Report          | Executor and has determined that   |   |
| 9202               | before a first and final accounting can be filed, a supplemental Inventory and |   |
| Order              | Appraisal needs to filed.  |   |
| Aff. Posting       | , pprabarrious to mod.   | Reviewed by: LV                               |
|                    | Mr. Rube states he is having knee  | Reviewed by: LV  Reviewed on: 01/06/2016      |
| Status Rpt UCCJEA  | replacement surgery on 10/22/2015 and  | Updates:                                      |
| Citation           | will be out of his office for at least two                                     | Recommendation:                               |
|                    | weeks. Therefore, Mr. Rube requests a  | File 12 - Johns                               |
| FTB Notice         | 90 day continuance of this matter so   | FIIE 12 - JOHNS                               |
|                    | that a Supplemental Inventory and  |   |
|                    | Appraisal can be filed and a first and   |   |
|                    | final report and account and petition for                                      |   |
|                    | distribution prepared and filed with the Court.                                |   |
|                    | COOH.  | 12  |

# Virginia Howard Revocable Trust 3/29/05 (Trust) Case No. 14CEPR00732 Upton, Andrea M. (for Petitioner Holly Foley) Kruthers, Heather (for Public Administrator)

Atty Atty

14

# **Petition to Compel Account**

| DO         | D: 10/3/12  |          | <b>HOLLY FOLEY</b> , Beneficiary, is Petitioner.  | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:  |
|------------|---|----------|---|---|
| 102<br>042 | nt. from 092914<br>2714, 012615,<br>2715, 062915,<br>3115, 092815 | 4,       | Petitioner states the trust was created 3/29/05 by Virginia Howard as Settlor and Trustee and amended and restated in its entirety on 7/4/11, and amended again on 8/12/11. Petitioner is informed and believes that VICTORIA HOWARD is | Minute Order 9/28/15: Mr. Poochigian is representing Holly Foley. Ms. Kruthers reports that there are assets to bring in; requests 90 days.  Note: On 10/27/14, the Court |
|            | Aff.Sub.Wit.  |          | currently the sole trustee, <b>VAUGHN</b>   | removed Victoria Howard as the  |
| ~          | Verified  |          | HOWARD having resigned on or about  | trustee and appointed the Public  |
|            | Inventory   |          | 6/23/14.  | Administrator as the successor  |
|            | PTC   |          | Potitionar states Virginia Howard diad  | trustee.  |
|            | Not.Cred.   |          | Petitioner states Virginia Howard died 10/3/12. Petitioner alleges the value of   | Status Report filed 8/28/15 by Public   |
| ~          | Notice of   |          | the trust at her death was over   | Administrator states the Public   |
|            | Hrg   |          | \$600,000.00.   | Administrator has not had a chance  |
| >          | Aff.Mail  | W        |   | to follow up on information provided  |
|            | Aff.Pub.  |          | On 5/16/14, Petitioner, through counsel,  | by Attorney Poochigian. There is no   |
|            | Sp.Ntc.   |          | made a written request for an account of the trust. On 5/28/14, following the   | new information to report since the last status report except that as   |
|            | Pers.Serv.  |          | sale of certain real property owned by  | Attorney Poochigian explained at  |
|            | Conf.   |          | the trust, Petitioner again requested a   | the last hearing, his client did  |
|            | Screen  |          | full and complete account of the  | receive funds from the sale of the  |
|            | Letters   |          | remaining assets. Petitioner is entitled to   | house.  |
|            | Duties/Supp   |          | receive an account per Probate Code §16062.   | As of 1/6/16, nothing further has   |
|            | Objections  |          | §10002.   | been filed by Petitioner or the PA.   |
|            | Video   |          | On or about 4/15/13, Petitioner   | The following issues remain noted:  |
| -          | Receipt   |          | received an inventory of trust assets   |   |
| -          | CI Report   |          | from the trustee's former legal counsel,  | SEE ADDITIONAL PAGES  |
|            | 9202<br>Order   |          | but has not received anything since that date. More than 60 days have   |   |
| Ť          | Aff. Posting  |          | elapsed since Petitioner's written  | Reviewed by: skc  |
|            | Status Rpt  | <u> </u> | request for a full account; therefore, this   | Reviewed by: SRC  |
|            | UCCJEA  |          | petition is appropriate under Probate   | Updates:  |
|            | Citation  |          | Code § 17200(b) and Petitioner requests   | Recommendation:   |
|            | FTB Notice  |          | an order of this Court instructing the trustee to deliver an account of the   | File 14 - Howard  |
|            |   |          | transactions of the trust to Petitioner.  |   |
| <u> </u>   |   | <u> </u> |   | 1.4   |

# 14 Virginia Howard Revocable Trust 3/29/05 (Trust) Case No. 14CEPR00732

#### Page 2

**First Supplement to Petition to Compel Account filed 10/22/14 states** Attorney Gilbert Fleming continued to assist the trustees until about January 2014. Thereafter, Mr. Fleming continued to principally administer the trust from Fresno County, where the decedent resided and where both trust accounts and real property were located.

Petitioner is informed and believes that the remaining assets consist of a very small amount of money in the trust account, the trustee having depleted the account while still residing in Fresno, and the trust's interest in an investment fund.

No petition to transfer administration has been filed pursuant to §17401 and Section 12.05 of the trust. Accordingly, administration continues to be Fresno County and venue is proper in Fresno County.

Though counsel for petitioner have repeatedly inquired as to whether the trustee has retained new counsel after Mr. Fleming withdrew in January 2014, Petitioner is informed and believes that the trustee has not, and remains unrepresented.

**Status Report filed 9/25/15 by the Public Administrator states** the status hearing was continued to 9/28/15 to determine what other assets besides the property that was sold have been collected by the former administrator and what still remains. The PA received bank statements from an account at Central Valley Community Bank. The vesting on the account is Virginia Howard Revocable Trust dtd 3/29/05, Virginia G Howard Trustee Victoria L. Howard Trustee. The address is Victoria's address in Iowa. The account was closed in Dec. 2014. On 9/11/15, the PA emailed Attorney Eric Schaffer asking what documentation he needs to direct Winrod Investments to begin sending dividend payments to the PA as successor trustee. No response has been received, but he did say in a prior letter that interest checks of \$12,120.73 since 10/3/12 have been sent to Victoria Howard.

**SEE ADDITIONAL PAGES** 

# 14 Virginia Howard Revocable Trust 3/29/05 (Trust) Case No. 14CEPR00732

Page 3

NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS: The following issues with this petition remain noted for reference:

- 1. Petitioner states Fresno County is the proper venue pursuant to Probate Code §17005 (a)(1) (principal place of administration); however, the current trustee, Victoria Howard, resides in <u>Red Oak, Iowa</u>, and the most recent former trustee, Vaughn Howard, resides in <u>Omaha, Nebraska</u>. Petitioner resides in <u>Fremont, CA</u>. Need clarification as to how Fresno County, CA, is the proper venue for this petition.
- 2. Petitioner provides the names and addresses of the beneficiaries, but does not state if these are all of the people <u>entitled to notice</u> pursuant to Probate Code §17201. Need clarification.
- 3. Petitioner mentions receipt of an inventory from the "Trustee's <u>former</u> legal counsel." Pursuant to Probate Code §1214, if the trustee is currently represented, notice is required to be served on the attorney, and Probate Code §17203 requires 30 days' notice.

The Court may require clarification as to how Petitioner knows that the trustee is no longer represented by the attorney who provided the inventory, and may require continuance for notice to the attorney for the trustee, if any.

<u>Note</u>: The trust and amendments were prepared by Attorney Gilbert B. Fleming of Fresno, CA. Is this the attorney that served the inventory? If so, is this the basis for venue in Fresno?

## Note: Probate Code §17002 states:

- 17002. (a) The principal place of administration of the trust is the usual place where the day-to-day activity of the trust is carried on by the trustee or its representative who is primarily responsible for the administration of the trust.
- (b) If the principal place of administration of the trust cannot be determined under subdivision (a), it shall be determined as follows:
- (1) If the trust has a single trustee, the principal place of administration of the trust is the trustee's residence or usual place of business.
- (2) If the trust has more than one trustee, the principal place of administration of the trust is the residence or usual place of business of any of the cotrustees as agreed upon by them or, if not, the residence or usual place of business of any of the cotrustees.

If Mr. Fleming withdrew as counsel for the trustees, how did administration of the trust continue in Fresno without him? Pursuant to Probate Code §17002, the principal place of administration follows the trustee.

§17400 applies to trusts that are already before the Court. That is not the case here, and the trust section referenced does not appear to require petition to the Court for transfer. The trust has never been before this Court.

If Mr. Fleming's former representation of the trustee is the basis for Fresno as venue, Mr. Fleming is entitled to Notice of Hearing on Mr. Fleming at least 30 days prior to the hearing pursuant to §17203 and §1214.

# Vivian Dorothy Vaughan (Estate) Case No. 15CEPR00143 ey Kruthers, Heather (for the Public Administrator) Probate Status Hearing RE: Filing of the Inventory and Appraisal Case No. 15CEPR00143 15

Attorney

| DOD: 07/01/2006 | PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR, was appointed       | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:  |
|-----------------|---|---|
|                 | Administrator with full IAEA authority on |   |
|                 | per minute order of 08/10/2015.           | Need Inventory and Appraisal or                                   |
|                 |   | current written status report                                     |
| Cont. from      | Letters issued 12/11/2015.                | pursuant to Local Rule 7.5 which                                  |
| Aff.Sub.Wit.    | Minute Order of 08/10/2015 set the        | states in all matters set for status                              |
| Verified        | Status Hearing for the filing of the      | hearing verified status reports<br>must be filed no later than 10 |
| Inventory       | Inventory and Appraisal.                  | days before the hearing. Status                                   |
| PTC             | Minute Order states: The Court appoints   | Reports must comply with the                                      |
| Not.Cred.       | the Public Administrator forthwith due to | applicable code requirements.                                     |
| Notice of       | the Petitioner's inability to post bond   | Notice of the status hearing,                                     |
| Hrg             | and the fact that no other family         | together with a copy of the Status                                |
| Aff.Mail        | member wishes to act at this time.        | Report shall be served on all                                     |
| Aff.Pub.        | Jonathan Vaughn and Donna Standard        | necessary parties.  |
| Sp.Ntc.         | are ordered to turn over any and all      | ricecssary parties.   |
| Pers.Serv.      | oral and written information pertaining   |   |
| Conf.           | to the estate to the Public Administrator |   |
| Screen          | forthwith. Letters are to issue form the  |   |
| Letters         | minute order.                             |   |
| Duties/Supp     |   |   |
| Objections      |   |   |
| Video           |   |   |
| Receipt         |   |   |
| CI Report       |   |   |
| 9202            |   |   |
| Order           |   |   |
| Aff. Posting    |   | Reviewed by: LV   |
| Status Rpt      |   | <b>Reviewed on:</b> 01/05/2016                                    |
| UCCJEA          |   | Updates:  |
| Citation        |   | Recommendation:   |
| FTB Notice      |   | File 15- Vaughan  |

19 Charles Kemmer (Estate) Case No. 15CEPR00638
Attorney Markeson, Thomas A. (for Christopher Kemmer – Administrator)
Probate Status Hearing RE: Filing of the Inventory and Appraisal

| DOD: 05/30/2015 | CHRISTOPHER KEMMER, was appointed  | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:  |
|-----------------|--|---------------------------|
|                 | Administrator with full IAEA without   |                           |
|                 | bond on 08/10/2015.  | Need Final Inventory and  |
|                 | 00/10/0015   | Appraisal.                |
| Cont. from      | Letters issued on 08/12/2015.  |                           |
| Aff.Sub.Wit.    | Minute Order of 08/10/2015 set this  |                           |
| Verified        | Status Hearing for the filing of the   |                           |
| Inventory       | Inventory and Appraisal.   |                           |
| PTC             | Status Report filed 01/05/2016 states the                                    |                           |
| Not.Cred.       | filing of the inventory and appraisal was                                    |                           |
| Notice of       | delayed because of a situation   |                           |
| Hrg             | regarding tax liens (about \$50,000.00)                                      |                           |
| Aff.Mail        | that were discovered when a title  |                           |
| Aff.Pub.        | search was done in November in   |                           |
| Sp.Ntc.         | regards to the sale of the residence.  |                           |
| Pers.Serv.      | The liens, if imposed, will not allow a                                      |                           |
| Conf.           | completion of the sale (the mortgage, tax liens and other expenses exceed    |                           |
| Screen          | the sale price). Last month a request  |                           |
| Letters         | for the IRS to Discharge the Lien, was                                       |                           |
| Duties/Supp     | prepared but that request requires an  |                           |
| Objections      | appraisal in order to be processed.  |                           |
| Video           | Because the estate has no cash,  |                           |
| Receipt         | petitioner's attorneys were unwilling to                                     |                           |
| CI Report       | advance the funds to the Probate   |                           |
| 9202            | Referee for this appraisal. Petitioner                                       |                           |
| Order           | advanced the appraisal fees from his   | Deviews d by a 11/        |
| Aff. Posting    | personal funds and the inventory was   | Reviewed by: LV           |
| Status Rpt      | submitted to Steven Diebert on   | Reviewed on: 01/06/2016   |
| UCCJEA Citation | December 30 for his action. Petitioner is hopeful that the appraisal will be | Updates:  Recommendation: |
| FTB Notice      | completed prior to the status hearing  | File 19- Kemmer           |
| I ID NOTICE     | however if not, he requests the court  | THE 17- KEITHIE           |
|                 | continue this hearing for 30 days in   |                           |
|                 | order to receive the final inventory and                                     |                           |
|                 | appraisal on file with the Court.  |                           |
|                 |  |                           |

Zachery Ruffner (GUARD/P) Case No. 15CEPR00646 Walters, Jennifer L. (for Jana Todd – Maternal Aunt – Petitioner) 20

Attorney:

Objector: Ruffner, Brian (pro per)

Petition for Appointment of Guardian of the Person (Prob. Code §1510)

|          |                  | Con polition for debails  |   |
|----------|------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <b> </b> |                  | See petition for details. | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/                               |
|          |                  |                           | COMMENTS:                                     |
|          |                  |                           | Minute Order 11/9/16:                         |
|          |                  |                           | Mr. Ruffner is provided                       |
| Со       | nt. from 083115, |                           | with Examiner Notes. If                       |
| 092      | 2815, 110915     |                           | the service defects are                       |
|          | Aff.Sub.Wit.     |                           | not cured for the 1/11/16                     |
| ~        | Verified         |                           | hearing, Mr. Ruffner's                        |
|          | Inventory        |                           | Objection will be stricken                    |
| -        | PTC              |                           | and the Court will move                       |
|          | Not.Cred.        |                           | forward.                                      |
| -        | Notice of        |                           | A   |
| *        | Hrg              |                           | As of 1/6/16, nothing further has been filed. |
| -        | Aff.Mail         |                           | former has been filed.                        |
| È        |                  |                           | 1. Need proof of service                      |
| -        | Aff.Pub.         |                           | of the Objections of                          |
| <u> </u> | Sp.Ntc.          |                           | Brian Ruffner on:                             |
| ~        | Pers.Serv.       |                           | a. Karen Todd-Lopez                           |
| ~        | Conf.            |                           | (mother)                                      |
|          | Screen           |                           | b. <b>Zachary Ruffner</b>                     |
| ~        | Letters          |                           | (minor)                                       |
| ~        | Duties/Supp      |                           |   |
| >        | Objections       |                           |   |
|          | Video            |                           |   |
|          | Receipt          |                           |   |
| >        | CI Report        |                           |   |
| >        | Clearances       |                           |   |
| ~        | Order            |                           |   |
|          | Aff. Posting     |                           | Reviewed by: skc                              |
|          | Status Rpt       |                           | Reviewed on: 1/6/16                           |
| ~        | UCCJEA           |                           | Updates:                                      |
|          | Citation         |                           | Recommendation:                               |
|          | FTB Notice       |                           | File 20 – Ruffner                             |
|          | •                |                           |   |

Petitioner: Michelle L. Sullivan (pro per)

# Petition for Appointment of Guardian of the Person

|          |                  |    | TEMPORARY EXPIRES 1/11/16  | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:  |
|----------|------------------|----|--|---|
|          |                  |    | TEMI ORAKI EXIMES 1, 11, 10  | NEEDS/TROBLEMS/COMMENTS.  |
|          |                  |    | <b>MICHELLE L. SULLIVAN</b> , maternal grandmother, is petitioner. | Minute order dated 11/9/15 states Nichole De Los Reyes and Ronnie Fletcher state that they have not |
| Co       | nt. from 110915  | j  | Please see petition for details.                                   | used meth or marijuana for  |
|          | Aff.Sub.Wit.     |    |  | approximately 2 months. The Court   |
| ✓        | Verified         |    | Court Investigator Jennifer Daniel's Report filed on 11/2/15.      | orders Nichole De Los Reyes and<br>Ronnie Fletcher to report to Avertest                            |
|          | Inventory        |    | , , ,  | for urine drug tests forthwith, with  |
|          | PTC              |    |  | Michelle Sullivan paying the costs of   |
|          | Not.Cred.        |    |  | the tests. The test results are to be   |
| 1        | Notice of<br>Hrg |    |  | brought to court on 1/11/16.  |
| 1        | Aff.Mail         | W/ |  |   |
|          | Aff.Pub.         |    |  |   |
|          | Sp.Ntc.          |    |  |   |
| <b>✓</b> | Pers.Serv.       | W/ |  |   |
| <b>√</b> | Conf.<br>Screen  |    |  |   |
| <b>✓</b> | Letters          |    |  |   |
| 1        | Duties/Supp      |    |  |   |
|          | Objections       |    |  |   |
|          | Video            |    |  |   |
|          | Receipt          |    |  |   |
| ✓        | CI Report        |    |  |   |
|          | 9202             |    |  |   |
| ✓        | Order            |    |  |   |
|          | Aff. Posting     |    |  | Reviewed by: KT   |
|          | Status Rpt       |    |  | Reviewed on: 1/4/16   |
| ✓        | UCCJEA           |    |  | Updates:  |
|          | Citation         |    |  | Recommendation:   |
|          | FTB Notice       |    |  | File 21 - Fletcher  |

# 22

Case No. 15CEPR00870

Petitioner

Dominic Brooks (GUARD/P) Case No. 15CE Chretien, James Joseph, Sr. (Pro Per – Maternal Grandfather – Petitioner) Petition for Appointment of Guardian of the Person

| T  |                 |    | Soo polition for details  | NIEEDS /DDODLEAAS /                                   |
|----|-----------------|----|---------------------------|---|
|    |                 |    | See petition for details. | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/                                       |
|    |                 |    |                           | COMMENTS:   |
|    |                 |    |                           | Minute Order 11/9/15:                                 |
|    |                 |    |                           | Minute Order 11/9/15:                                 |
| Co | nt'd from 11091 | 15 |                           | Examiner Notes provided in open court. Ms. Parker     |
| H  | Aff.Sub.Wit.    |    |                           | represents that the paternal                          |
|    | Verified        |    |                           | grandfather is Allen Brooks, Sr.,                     |
| Ě  |                 |    |                           | and the paternal grandmother                          |
| -  | Inventory       |    |                           | is Darlene Manning.                                   |
|    | PTC             |    |                           | Continued to 1/11/16.                                 |
|    | Not.Cred.       | _  |                           |   |
|    | Notice of       | Х  |                           | 1. Notices of Hearing filed                           |
|    | Hrg             |    |                           | 11/19/15 on the paternal                              |
|    | Aff.Mail        |    |                           | grandparents do not state                             |
|    | Aff.Pub.        |    |                           | that a copy of the petition                           |
|    | Sp.Ntc.         |    |                           | was served with the notice<br>§1511, and the server's |
|    | Pers.Serv.      |    |                           | information is not included.                          |
|    | Conf.           |    |                           | The Court may require                                 |
|    | Screen          |    |                           | further service.                                      |
| ~  | Letters         |    |                           |   |
|    | Duties/Supp     |    |                           | Also, need clarification:                             |
| ~  | Objections      |    |                           | Per the minute order of                               |
|    | Video           |    |                           | 11/9/15, the paternal                                 |
|    | Receipt         |    |                           | grandmother's name is<br>Darlene Manning;             |
| ~  | CI Report       |    |                           | however, the Notice of                                |
| ~  | Clearances      |    |                           | Hearing indicates service                             |
| _  | Order           |    |                           | on Darlene Hall. Is this the                          |
|    |                 |    |                           | same person?  |
|    | Aff. Posting    |    |                           | Reviewed by: skc                                      |
|    | Status Rpt      |    |                           | Reviewed on: 1/6/16                                   |
| ~  | UCCJEA          |    |                           | Updates:  |
|    | Citation        |    |                           | Recommendation:                                       |
|    | FTB Notice      |    |                           | File 22 - Brooks                                      |
|    |                 |    |                           |   |

Attorney

Betty Chambers (Spousal) Case
Porter, Tres A. (for Larry Chambers – surviving spouse/Petitioner)
Spousal or Domestic Partner Property Petition

| DOD: 05/16/08 |                  | LARRY CHAMBERS, surviving spouse, is Petitioner.  | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/                                  |
|---------------|------------------|---|--|
|               |                  | No other proceedings.   | COMMENTS:  |
|               |                  |   | CONTINUED FROM 11/09/15                          |
|               |                  | Decedent died intestate.  | Minute Order from 11/09/15                       |
| Со            | nt. from 102615, | Petitioner states that he and the decedent  | states: Matter is continued                      |
| 110           | 0915             | were married on 06/16/56 and remained   | for Counsel to do further                        |
|               | Aff.Sub.Wit.     | married until decedent's death on 05/16/08.  Petitioner states that he and the Decedent had   | research regarding the                           |
| ✓             | Verified         | two sons during their marriage and have no  | defect listed in the                             |
|               | Inventory        | predeceased children. Decedent inherited the  | Examiner's notes.                                |
|               | PTC              | ½ interest in the real property seeking to be passed with this petition from her mother's   | Petitioner states that the                       |
|               | Not.Cred.        | estate on 11/29/65, while the decedent and  | property was                                     |
| ✓             | Notice of        | petitioner were married.  | transmuted from                                  |
|               | Hrg              | Petitioner requests Court confirmation that ½   | separate property to                             |
| ✓             | Aff.Mail v       |   | community property by                            |
|               | Aff.Pub.         | Kearney Blvd., Kerman, passes to him.   | verbal agreement of the                          |
|               | Sp.Ntc.          | Supplemental Declaration of Larry Chambers in   | parties prior to 01/01/85. The Court may require |
|               | Pers.Serv.       | Support of Spousal Property Petition filed  | more information or                              |
|               | Conf.            | 12/15/15 states: while it's true the property in question was obtained by decedent via  | evidence of such                                 |
|               | Screen           | inheritance, the decedent and Petitioner  | transmutation.                                   |
|               | Letters          | discussed many times over the years the fact  |  |
|               | Duties/Supp      | that the property was theirs together as a couple. California Family Code § 850 et seq.   |  |
|               | Objections       | provides that married persons, can, by  |  |
|               | Video            | agreement, transmute separate property to   |  |
|               | Receipt          | community property. Petitioner states that he and the decedent always treated the property  |  |
|               | CI Report        | as their community property and it was their  |  |
|               | 9202             | joint intention that the decedent's interest in   |  |
| ✓             | Order            | the property be theirs together as community property. They raised their children there and   |  |
|               | Aff. Posting     | continually referred to it as their home.   | Reviewed by: JF                                  |
|               | Status Rpt       | Petitioner and his attorney contend that an oral  | <b>Reviewed on:</b> 01/05/16                     |
|               | UCCJEA           | agreement to transmute the property such as the one between decedent and himself is valid   | Updates:   |
|               | Citation         | because the transmutation occurred prior to   | Recommendation:                                  |
|               | FTB Notice       | January 1, 1985.  | File 23 – Chambers                               |
|               |                  | Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support of Spousal Property Petition filed 12/15/15 states: it is the position of Petitioner and his attorney that a transmutation of the property occurred during the term of their marriage before 01/01/85, whereby the subject property went from separate property of the decedent to community property of the decedent and petitioner. Legal argument in support provided. |  |

Attorney

Jared R. Callister (for Petitioner Susan Belanger)

Petition for Order Confirming Trust Assets (Heggstad); and Determination Concerning Construction of Trust Instrument; and Instructions

Donna Novak DOD: 2/20/2005 Vladimir Novak DOD: 5/4/2015 Cont. from 120715 Aff.Sub.Wit. Verified Inventory PTC Not.Cred. Notice of Hrg W/ Aff.Mail Aff.Pub. Sp.Ntc. Pers.Serv. Conf. Screen **Letters** Duties/Supp **Objections** Video Receipt **CI Report** 9202 Order 1 Aff. Posting **Status Rpt UCCJEA** Citation **FTB Notice** 

**SUSAN BELANGER**, Successor Trustee of the **SURVIVOR'S TRUST** and **RESIDUAL TRUST**, is Petitioner.

#### **Petitioner states:**

- VLADIMIR STEVE NOVAK and his wife, DONNA MARGENE NOVAK, established on 6/10/1981 the NOVAK FAMILY TRUST OF 1981 (copy attached as Exhibit A); over the years, the Trust held title to 7 different residential rental homes;
- Upon the death of Ms. Novak on 2/20/2005, per terms of the Trust the assets were divided into 2 sub-trusts:
   RESIDUAL TRUST and SURVIVOR'S TRUST (the latter known as the VLADIMIR NOVAK REVISED AND RESTATED SURVIVOR'S TRUST (copy of restated survivor's trust dated 11/8/2006 and 4/9/2007 first amendment attached as Exhibit B);
- Steps were taken to allocate the 7 rental homes to the 2 sub-trusts: 50% interest in each of the rental homes funded the RESIDUAL TRUST, and 50% interest in each of the rental homes funded the SURVIVOR'S TRUST;

~Please see additional page~

# NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:

Continued from 12/7/2015. Minute Order states counsel will file a declaration with the missing trust page attached. Matter is continued for review of the anticipated declaration; the Court indicates that the matter will be taken under advisement on 1/11/2016.

Reviewed by: LEG

Reviewed on: 1/4/16

Updates:

Recommendation:

File 25 – Novak

#### Petitioner states, continued:

# Confirmation of Norwich Residence as SURVIVOR'S TRUST property (Heggstad Petition):

- During Ms. Novak's life, their principal residence on Norwich Ave. in Clovis was not transferred to the Family Trust but was held by Mr. and Ms. Novak as joint tenants;
- After Ms. Novak's death, it appears that it was mistakenly believed that the Norwich residence was already titled in the Family Trust, as evidenced by Attorney Mara Erlach filing an Affidavit of Death of Trustee (copy attached as Exhibit C), as opposed to an Affidavit of Death of Joint Tenant;
- In addition, Attorney Erlach had Mr. Novak execute a Grant Deed which purported to transfer the Norwich Residence from the Family Trust to the Survivor's Trust (copy attached as Exhibit D);
- Notwithstanding the execution and recordation of the Affidavit of Grant Deed, title to the Norwich
  residence is still vested in Mr. Novak as surviving joint tenant, as confirmed by a title report prepared by a
  title company at Trustee's request;
- Petitioner requests that the Norwich property be confirmed as an asset of the SURVIVOR'S TRUST under the [Heggstad] doctrine which held that real property not actually titled by way of deed in the name of the settlor's living trust did in fact constitute trust property as a result of the declaration and intent of the settlors that the property be trust property;
- While Mr. and Ms. Novak did not attempt to transfer the Norwich residence to their Family Trust during their joint lifetimes, it is clear that Mr. Novak wanted to, and in fact attempted to transfer, the Norwich residence to his SURVIVOR'S TRUST;
- Not only did Mr. Novak sign and have recorded an Affidavit and Grant Deed attempting to actually
  convey the Norwich residence to his SURVIVOR'S TRUST, but the language in his SURVIVOR'S TRUST also
  clearly demonstrates his desire to transfer the property to his SURVIVOR'S TRUST;
- It is important to note that Mr. Novak has a pour-over will that if probated would require the assets not held in trust to be transferred and allocated to his **SURVIVOR'S TRUST** (copy of will attached as Exhibit E);
- Thus, Petitioner requests that this Court confirm that the Norwich residence is property subject to the SURVIVOR'S TRUST and under the control of Petitioner as [Successor] Trustee of the SURVIVOR'S TRUST.

<u>Construction of FAMILY TRUST/RESIDUAL TRUST, Section 12(a)</u>: Petitioner also requests guidance and instruction on interpreting the **NOVAK FAMILY TRUST** so that the Trustee can make appropriate distributions from the **RESIDUAL TRUST**;

- Mr. Novak had no children or issue of his own; Ms. Novak had one son, RICHARD E. CONLEY, from a prior relationship;
- RICHARD E. CONLEY was first married to BARBARA CONLEY and had one child: LEANNE MARTIN aka LEANNE CHRISTINE CONLEY;
- RICHARD E. CONLEY was later married to ELIZABETH CONLEY and had one child: RICHARD (RICKY) A.
   CONLEY;
- Thus, Mr. Novak had one step-son and two step-grandchildren [ Page 5 of Petition includes table listing chronological births and deaths and changes to Mr. Novak's estate plan];

~Please see additional page~

# Petitioner states, continued:

- The **NOVAK FAMILY TRUST** dictates that at the surviving settlor's death, the trust estate is to be divided into one trust share for **RICHARD** and one trust share for **LEANNE**;
- Trust further provides that the Trustee is to pay or apply for the benefit of Richard and Leanne, for their lives, net income from his or her respective share of the trust estate, along with discretionary distributions of principle from their trust shares;
- Trust further provides that upon the death of Richard or Leanne, the residue of their respective trust shares is to pass to the trust share of the survivor of the two of them;
- However, as written, the trust language does create confusion as to what is to happen to the share that
  was to be allocated to Richard if Richard <u>predeceased</u> [emphasis in original] the surviving settlor, which
  is what happened in this case; [Richard's date of death is 6/20/2003; Mr. Novak's date of death is
  5/4/2015];
- While the reading of the Trust creates the impression that Leanne is to inherit Richard's share, there is a colorable argument that California's anti-lapse statute might apply in this case;
- While Petitioner believes that Leanne is the sole beneficiary of the RESIDUAL TRUST due to its terms and
  extrinsic evidence of Mr. Novak's intent, there is sufficient ambiguity that Petitioner seeks this Court's
  assistance and instruction on the proper interpretation of these trust terms;
- If the anti-lapse statute is deemed to apply, then Richard's issue will receive his share of the trust estate, namely, Leanne and her half-sibling, Ricky;
- The question is whether Leanne is the sole beneficiary of the **RESIDUAL TRUST** or whether as a result of the anti-lapse statute, Leanne is a **75%** beneficiary with Ricky receiving the other **25%**;
- Support that the Anti-Lapse Does Not Apply: Petitioner believes that the language in the RESIDUAL TRUST
  as well as extrinsic evidence showing settlor's intent, is sufficient to overcome any application of Probate
  Code § 21110, California's anti-lapse statute;
- A plain reading of Trust Section 12(a)(1)(B) of the **RESIDUAL TRUST** makes clear that upon the death of Richard, his share is to be allocated to Leanne and added to her trust share as the survivor of the two of them; this trust provision explicitly includes a survivorship requirement, requiring that the estate pass to the trust of the "survivor" of Richard or Leanne; thus, this provision is adequate to demonstrate that the Novaks wanted Leanne to inherit Richard's share, whether or not he may have predeceased the surviving Settlor; in other words, Leanne was to be the sole beneficiary if Richard was dead or later died;
- This language is sufficient to meet the statutory test under Probate Code § 21110(b) to avoid application
  of the anti-lapse statute as the instrument "expresses a contrary intention" to the application of the antilapse statute and even includes a survivorship condition which is sufficient to avoid application of the
  anti-lapse rules;
- To apply the anti-lapse statute would defeat the settlors' intent and would create a curious distribution scheme that the settlors did not anticipate or desire; if the anti-lapse statute is deemed to apply, then the trust share allocated to Richard would instead pass to his children in equal shares, namely Leanne and Ricky; but if Richard did not predecease the surviving settlor then his share would have passed entirely to Leanne; clearly, the settlors would not have drafted the trust to call for a 100% allocation to Leanne at Richard's death, but only if Richard survived the settlors;
- In addition to the trust provisions as mentioned that indicate Leanne is the sole beneficiary of the
  RESIDUAL TRUST there exists persuasive extrinsic evidence to suggest that the Novak's intended Leanne to
  be, and in fact believed she was, the sole beneficiary of the RESIDUAL TRUST in light of Richard's death;

  ~Please see additional page~

## Petitioner states, continued:

- After Ms. Novak's death, Mr. Novak engaged in estate planning with Attorney Mara Erlach, which resulted in the execution of a revised and restated stand-alone **SURVIVOR'S TRUST** (please see Exhibit B);
- Notably, Mr. Novak's SURVIVOR'S TRUST was amended and restated so as to completely remove Leanne
  as a beneficiary and to instead insert RICKY (Richard E. Conley's son) as a 25% beneficiary (along with
  Leanne's 3 children with each of them added as 25% beneficiaries);
- Petitioner believes Mr. Novak removed Leanne as a beneficiary of the SURVIVOR'S TRUST because it was his intent and understanding that Leanne was a 100% beneficiary of the RESIDUAL TRUST;
- In a letter dated 10/24/2006 from Attorney Mara Erlach to Mr. Novak, Ms. Erlach explains the SURVIVOR'S TRUST provisions stating: "You have chosen not to provide for Leanne Conley in your trust, since she will be receiving the entire share of Donna's property from the RESIDUAL TRUST when you pass away." [Emphasis added in Petition]; (copy of Ms. Erlach's letter attached as Exhibit F);
- While one could conceivably argue that the anti-lapse statute should apply in this instance, the wording
  of the RESIDUAL TRUST makes it clear that Leanne is the sole beneficiary of said trust and the survivorship
  requirement of the trust is sufficient to meet the exception to the anti-lapse rule found in Probate Code §
  21110(b);
- This position is further confirmed by the extrinsic evidence which demonstrates that Mr. Novak believed and intended Leanne to be the sole beneficiary of the **RESIDUAL TRUST** and acted upon such belief and intention so as to alter his other estate documents in light of this belief and intention.

<u>Construction of FAMILY TRUST/RESIDUAL TRUST, Section 12(c)</u>: Petitioner also requests guidance and instruction on interpreting the **NOVAK FAMILY TRUST** so that the Trustee can make appropriate distributions from the **RESIDUAL TRUST** at the death of **LEANNE CHRISTINE CONLEY (MARTIN)**;

- There is ambiguity as to what is to happen to Leanne's trust share under the RESIDUAL TRUST at her death;
- While Trust Section 12(a) of the **RESIDUAL TRUST** provides that upon her death her share would pass to Richard, if he survived, that provision cannot apply here because Richard is already deceased; thus the only provision that appears to apply is Section 12(c);
- Because Richard is not alive, if Leanne dies while there are still assets in her share of the **RESIDUAL TRUST** then Section 12(c) apparently provides that her share is to pass to "other children and issue hereunder";
- It is not clear what is exactly meant by the phrase "other children and issue hereunder" as the Trust only refers to Richard and Leanne explicitly;
- In light of the ambiguity of this statement, Petitioner requests that the phrase "other issue hereunder" be interpreted to mean Leanne's issue;
- This is in accordance with the general statutory principle that "words of an instrument are to receive an interpretation that will give every expression some effect" and that "[preference is to be given to an interpretation of an instrument that will prevent intestacy or failure of transfer" (see Probate Code § 21120);
- Thus, Petitioner requests confirmation that upon Leanne's death, her share of the **RESIDUAL TRUST** assets shall pass to her issue by right of representation.

~Please see additional page~

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<u>Construction of SURVIVOR'S TRUST, Article SIX, Section A(5)</u>: Petitioner also requests guidance and instruction on interpreting Article Six, Section (A)(5) of the **SURVIVOR'S TRUST**, as included in that certain First Amendment dated 4/9/2007; this section was added to the trust by an amendment; (see *Exhibit B*);

- It is Petitioner's belief that Mr. Novak was desirous that Leanne be given the right to live in the Norwich Residence, rent-free, for her lifetime;
- Because the SURVIVOR'S TRUST does not explicitly mention the requirement that rent be charged, but
  instead simple states that the Trustee "allow" the Norwich residence "to be used by" Leanne, Petitioner
  believes that the Trustee is not authorized to charge rent to Leanne should she choose to reside in the
  Norwich residence;
- In addition, Petitioner believes that property taxes and insurance on the Norwich Residence, as an asset of the **SURVIVOR'S TRUST**, would be paid by the Trustee from trust funds and not charged to Leanne; however, Petitioner believes that Leanne would be responsible for the payment of all utilities of the Norwich Residence while she resided therein;
- Petitioner requests confirmation that Leanne is authorized to reside in the Norwich Residence rent-free and shall only be responsible for the payment of utilities.

# Petitioner prays for an Order of this Court:

- [Confirming that] the Norwich Residence constitutes an asset of the VLADIMIR NOVAK REVISED AND RESTATED SURVIVOR'S TRUST subject to the management and control of Petitioner as [Successor] Trustee;
- 2. [Deeming] LEANNE CHRISTINE CONLEY (MARTIN) as the sole beneficiary of the RESIDUAL TRUST;
- 3. [Confirming that] upon Leanne's death, Leanne's share of the trust estate in the **RESIDUAL TRUST** shall pass to Leanne's issue by right of representation;
- 4. [Confirming that] the Trustee of the VLADIMIR NOVAK REVISED AND RESTATED SURVIVOR'S TRUST is authorized and allowed to permit Leanne the right to reside in the Norwich Residence (or any replacement residence as indicated in [trust terms], without charge of rent, with Leanne being responsible for the payment of utilities on said residence during the time she resides in said residence (or any replacement residence; and
- 5. Determining that with respect to the Petition, the interests of the minor beneficiary are adequately represented without appointment of a guardian ad litem. [NOTE: This finding is **omitted** from the proposed order; it is unclear if this is intentional or clerical error.]

Note Re Appointment of Guardian ad Litem: Petition states that one of the SURVIVOR'S TRUST beneficiaries, TAWNI REANNE FORSTON, (daughter of Leanne) is a minor; the other three beneficiaries are adults; because all four beneficiaries will have an equal 1/4 interest in the SURVIVOR'S TRUST they each have identical interests in the SURVIVOR'S TRUST and thus the minor's interests are adequately represented by the other 3 adult beneficiaries and no guardian ad litem is needed. (See the discussion of doctrine of virtual representation in CA Trusts and Estates Quarterly, winter 2004 [citations omitted]. Probate Code § 1003(a) provides, in pertinent part, that the Court may, on its own motion, appoint a Guardian ad Litem to represent the interests of a minor if the Court determines that representation of the interest otherwise would be inadequate. Probate Code commentary to statutory provisions related to trust matters states it may not be necessary to appoint a guardian ad litem where appears that the affected interest, here consisting of the minor beneficiary's equal 1/4 interest, may be otherwise represented, i.e., by competent adults with identical interests.

# Louis Harold Kelly AKA Harold Kelly (Estate) Case No. 15CEPR01053 Johnson, Mark D. (for Petitioner Brian Kelly)

# Petition for Letters of Administration; Authorization to Administer under IAEA

| DO          | D: 7/28/15       |   | BRIAN KELLY, Brother, is   | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:   |
|-------------|------------------|---|--|--|
|             | D. 7/20/10       |   | Petitioner and requests  | THEE BOYT ROBLEMO, COMMENTO.   |
| Coi         | nt'd from 12071  | 5 | appointment as Administrator with Limited IAEA with bond to be determined. | Minute Order 12/7/15: Counsel represents that related litigation with the VA will result in approx. \$50,000.00 for the estate. Matter continued to 1/11/16.   |
|             | Aff.Sub.Wit.     |   | Petitioner is a resident of  |  |
| <b>&gt;</b> | Verified         |   | Pioneer, Louisiana.  | As of 1/6/16, nothing further has been filed.<br>The following issues remain:  |
|             | Inventory        |   | Limited IAEA – ok  |  |
|             | PTC              |   |  | 1. Need Duties and Liabilities of Personal   |
|             | Notice of        | X | Decedent died intestate  | Representative and Confidential Supplement.  |
|             | Hrg              | ^ | Residence: Fresno  | зоррієннені.   |
|             | Aff.Mail         | Χ | Publication: Business Journal  | 2. Need Notice of Petition to Administer Estate  |
| ~           | Aff.Pub.         |   |  | and proof of service on Chad Kelly (Son)   |
|             | Sp.Ntc.          |   | Estimated value of estate: Personal property: \$5,000.00                   | and all other relatives listed at #8 per Probate Code §8110.   |
|             | Pers.Serv.       |   | (plus \$50,000.00 per Minute   | Hobdie Code 30110.   |
|             | Conf.            |   | order 12/7/15, for a total of  | 3. If only limited IAEA is granted, the Court  |
|             | Screen           |   | <u>\$55,000.00</u> )   | may require bond of \$55,000.00 to cover   |
| ~           | Letters          |   | Real property: \$100,000.00  | the estimated personal property. Reminder:   |
|             | Duties/Supp      | Χ | (\$250,000.00, encumbered for  | Cal. Rule of Court 7.204 outlines duty to  |
|             | Objections       |   | \$150,000.00)  | apply for increased bond upon necessity.   |
|             | Video<br>Receipt |   | Probate Referee: Rick Smith  | 4. Need Order.   |
|             | CI Report        |   |  |  |
|             | 9202             |   |  | Note: If the petition is granted status hearings will be   |
|             | Order            | Х |  | <ul><li>set as follows:</li><li>Monday, 6/13/16 at 9:00a.m. in Dept. 303 for</li></ul>   |
|             | Oldel            | ^ |  | <ul> <li>the filing of the inventory and appraisal <u>and</u></li> <li>Monday, 3/13/17 at 9:00a.m. in Dept. 303 for the filing of the first account and final distribution.</li> <li>Pursuant to Local Rule 7.5 if the required documents</li> </ul> |
|             |                  |   |  | are filed 10 days prior to the hearings on the matter<br>the status hearing will come off calendar and no  |
|             |                  |   |  | appearance will be required.   |
|             | Aff. Posting     |   |  | Reviewed by: skc   |
|             | Status Rpt       |   |  | Reviewed on: 1/6/16  |
|             | UCCJEA           |   |  | Updates:   |
|             | Citation         |   |  | Recommendation:  |
|             | FTB Notice       |   |  | File 26 - Kelly  |

Order to Show Cause – Pre RE: Failure to File the Inventory and Appraisal

| DOD: 01/13/15    |   | ROBERT        |
|------------------|---|---------------|
|                  |   | Admini        |
|                  |   | and wit       |
|                  |   | of Adm        |
| Cont. from 01041 | 6 | 06/22/1       |
| Aff.Sub.Wit.     |   | Minute        |
| Verified         |   | set the       |
| Inventory        | Х | regardi       |
| PTC              |   | Apprais       |
| Not.Cred.        |   | Minute        |
| Notice of        |   | states:       |
| Hrg              |   | issues a      |
| Aff.Mail         |   | Daniel        |
| Aff.Pub.         |   | be sand       |
| Sp.Ntc.          |   | and to should |
| Pers.Serv.       |   | for failu     |
| Conf.            |   | Apprais       |
| Screen           |   | are bot       |
| Letters          |   | present       |
| Duties/Supp      |   | 01/04/1       |
| Objections       |   | Clerk's       |
| Video            |   | to 11/0       |
| Receipt          |   | сору о        |
| CI Report        |   | mailed        |
| 9202             |   | Baker c       |
| Order            |   |               |
| Aff. Posting     |   |               |
| Status Rpt       |   |               |
| UCCJEA           |   |               |
| Citation         |   |               |
| FTD NIALLA       | 1 |               |

FTB Notice

ROBERT BAKER, son, was appointed Administrator with no IAEA authority and without bond on 06/08/15. Letters of Administration were issued on 06/22/15.

Minute Order from hearing on 06/08/15 set the matter for a Status Hearing regarding filing of the Inventory & Appraisal on 11/19/15.

Minute Order from hearing on 11/09/15 states: NO APPEARANCES – The Court ssues an Order to Show Cause to Daniel Bruce as to why he should not be sanctioned for failure to appear, and to Robert Baker as to why he should not be removed as Administrator for failure to file the Inventory & Appraisal. Mr. Bruce and Robert Baker are both ordered to be personally present in court or via CourtCall on 01/04/16.

Clerk's Certificate of Mailing attached to 11/09/15 Minute Order states that a copy of the 11/09/15 Minute Order was mailed to Daniel Bruce and Robert Baker on 11/09/15.

## **NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:**

# CONTINUED FROM 01/04/16

Minute Order from: 01/04/16 states: Counsel represents that the Inventory & Appraisal will be filed tomorrow. The Court orders that no appearance is necessary on 01/11/16 if said filing occurs, however, appearances by both Mr. Bruce and Robert Baker are required in person or by CourtCall should the filing not occur, and the Court will impose sanctions and/or remove Mr. Baker on that date.

As of 01/06/16, nothing further has been filed.

1. Need Inventory & Appraisal.

Reviewed by: JF

Reviewed on: 01/06/16

Updates:

Recommendation:

File 30- Richardson

Risner, Randy J. (for Gordon Panzak, son, Successor Trustee) Attorney

1

Probate Status Hearing Re: Trust Administration

| DOD: 3/12/2010     | PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR was Court-appointed   | NEEDS/PROBLEMS/COMMENTS:     |
|--------------------|--|------------------------------|
| DOD. 3/12/2010     | as Successor Trustee on 4/29/2013.   | NEEDS/TROBLEMS/COMMENTS.     |
|                    | ds 50ccessor 110stee off 4/27/2015.  | This matter will be heard at |
|                    | Beneficiary and 2nd Successor Trustee  | 9:00 a.m. in Department 72.  |
|                    | Gordon Panzak's Petition to Remove 3rd   |                              |
| Cont. from 012915, | Successor Trustee (Public Administrator) was   |                              |
| 092115             | filed on 1/28/2015 and was set for hearing on  |                              |
| Aff.Sub.Wit.       | 3/16/2015.   |                              |
| Verified           | Minute Order dated 3/16/2015 [Judge  |                              |
| Inventory          | Conklin] from the hearing on the Petition to   |                              |
| PTC                | Remove 3rd Successor Trustee states Public   |                              |
| Not.Cred.          | Administrator voluntarily resigns as successor   |                              |
| Notice of          | trustee and has no objection to Gordon   |                              |
| Hrg                | Panzak being appointed as successor trustee.   |                              |
| Aff.Mail           | Petitioner will not file an order for the Court's  |                              |
| Aff.Pub.           | signature; instead, counsel indicates this  Minute Order will suffice. Court sets a status |                              |
| Sp.Ntc.            | hearing six months out at counsel's request.   |                              |
| Pers.Serv.         | [Probate Status Hearing set for 9/21/2015 in   |                              |
| Conf.              | Department 72.]  |                              |
| Screen             |  |                              |
| Letters            | Minute Order dated 9/21/2015 from the  |                              |
| Duties/Supp        | previous status hearing continued the matter to 1/11/2016 in Department 72.                |                              |
| Objections         | 10 1/11/2010 III Bopariii 12.  |                              |
| Video              |  |                              |
| Receipt            |  |                              |
| CI Report          |  |                              |
| 9202               |  |                              |
| Order              |  |                              |
| Aff. Posting       |  | Reviewed by: LEG             |
| Status Rpt         |  | Reviewed on: 1/6/16          |
| UCCJEA             |  | Updates:                     |
| Citation           |  | Recommendation:              |
| FTB Notice         |  | File 1 – Panzak              |
|                    |  |                              |